

AGENDA



Thursday, October 2, 2008

**Watershed Protection and Development Review
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

Item No. 11

Subject: Authorize the City Manager to apply for a \$200,000 Brownfields Assessment Community-Wide Petroleum grant offered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$200,000 from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency over three years beginning Fiscal Year 2009 through 2012.

Fiscal Note: There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

For More Information: Catherine Esparza, 974-1954; Julia Lee, 974-3357

Prior Council Action: June 23, 2005 - Resolution to authorize the negotiation and execution of a memorandum of agreement with the U.S. EPA for a \$200,000 Brownfields Assessment Community-Wide Petroleum grant. November 4, 2004 - Resolution to apply for U.S. EPA Brownfields Assessment Community-Wide Petroleum grant.

Since the award of a U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) Brownfields Assessment Community-Wide Petroleum grant on June 23, 2005, the City of Austin, Watershed Protection and Development Review (WPDRD), Brownfields staff has conducted research and analyses of the official City and State Underground Storage Tank (UST) database to create an inventory of local properties potentially containing abandoned Underground Storage Tanks.

Over 800 possible UST properties have been identified and GIS mapped. Several property owners have been provided with funded environmental site assessments and development of cleanup plans through participation in the City's prior Brownfields UST grant program. Assessment and planning are the first steps toward revitalizing underutilized Brownfield properties. Several properties participating in the Brownfield program are currently in the process of remediation, working towards compliance with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality requirements, and are being revitalized.

To continue this momentum, we are requesting approval to apply for this additional Brownfields Assessment Community-Wide Petroleum grant. The grant will provide additional funding for environmental site assessments, thus allowing the City to reinvest in the community through the appropriate reuse of existing underutilized urban UST Brownfields properties.